N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor Then G. Grubb, et al.

Title: Optical Transmission Systems Including Signal Varying

Devices and Methods

Serial No.: 10/032,051

Docket No.:

980721CIPCIP

Filing Date:

Dec. 21, 2001

Art Unit:

3662

GroupNo.3600

Examiner:

COPY OF PAPERS ORIGINALLY FILED

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

GROUP 3600

Sir:

Applicant, in accordance with the duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, hereby advises the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the references listed on the accompanying form PTO 1449 "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant". A copy of the references cited herein are included. No fee is submitted herewith because this Statement is being filed before the mailing of the first Office Action.

Applicant notes that although the cited references may be relevant to the examination of the above-referenced application, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement "shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b)."

Respectfully submitted,

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